CLAIMS

1. A document storage specification generator apparatus for generating a storage specification for a document, the document having associated with it at least one storage label, the apparatus comprising a storage specification template database for determining storage specification templates according to storage labels associated with documents, a rules database comprising rules for resolving conflicts between conflicting storage specification templates and a storage specification generator for generating a storage specification for the document therefrom.

2. A document storage specification generator according to claim 1, in which the apparatus comprises a hierarchy database having a specification template hierarchy and rules database comprises hierarchy rules for reconciling storage specification template conflicts according to the relative storage specification hierarchy.

3. A document storage specification generator according to claim 1 or claim 2, in which the rules database comprises inter-label storage specification template conflict resolution rules.

4. A document storage specification generator according to any preceding claim, in which a storage specification template comprises a plurality of fields.

5. A document storage specification generator according to claim 4, in which the apparatus is configured whereby the rules database provides default entries for uninstantiated fields in the storage specification template.

6. A document storage specification generator according to claim 4, in which the apparatus is configured whereby if there is an uninstantiated field in the storage specification template a user query is referred to a user interface.

7. A document storage specification generator according to any preceding claim, in which the apparatus is configured whereby if the rules database determines that a conflict between storage specification templates exists, but that no rule is provided to reconcile the conflict, a user query is generated to a user interface.

8. A document storage specification generation method, for generating a storage specification for a document, the document having associated with it at least one storage label, the method comprising the steps of determining at least one storage specification field according to storage labels associated with documents, resolving conflicts between conflicting storage specification fields by applying rules from a rules database and generating a storage specification for the document therefrom.

9. A document storage specification generation method according to claim 8, in which the at least one

storage specification field is of a storage
specification template.

10. A document storage specification generation method
according to claim 9, in which there is a hierarchy
database having hierarchies of specification templates
and the rules database comprises hierarchy rules for
reconciling storage specification template conflicts
according to the relative storage specification
hierarchy.

11. A document storage specification generation method
according to claim 9 or claim 10, in which the rules
database comprises inter-label storage specification
template conflict resolution rules.

12. A document storage specification generation method
according to claim 11, when dependent from claim 10,
in which the hierarchy rules are applied before the
inter-label storage specification template rules.

13. A document storage specification generation method
according to any one of claims 9-12, in which a
storage specification template comprises a plurality
of fields.

14. A document storage specification generation method
according to claim 13, in which the rules database
provides entries for uninstantiated fields in the
storage specification template.

15. A document storage specification generation method
according to claim 13, in which if there is an

uninstantiated field in the storage specification template a user query is referred to a user interface.

16. 14. A document storage specification generation method according to any one of claims 9-15, in which if it is determined that a conflict between storage specification templates exists, but that no rule is provided to reconcile the conflict, a user query is generated to a user interface.

17. A document storage specification generation method according to any one of claims 9-16, in which a storage specification for the document is output and associated with the document.

18. A document storage specification generation apparatus substantially as described herein with reference to the drawings that follow.

19. A document storage specification generation method substantially as described herein.

20. A computer apparatus programmed to operate according to the method of any one of claims 8-17 or 19.